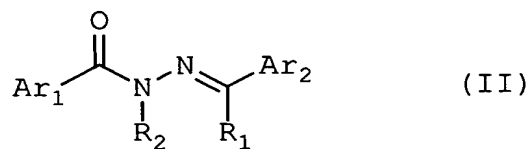
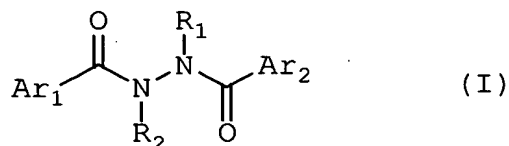


Substituted N'-(Arylcarbonyl)-benzhydrazides, N'-(Arylcarbonyl)-benzylidene-hydrazides and Analogs as Activators of Caspases and Inducers of Apoptosis and the Use Thereof

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The present invention is directed to substituted N'-(arylcarbonyl)-benzhydrazides, N'-(arylcarbonyl)-benzylidene-hydrazides and analogs thereof, represented by the Formulae I and II:



wherein Ar<sub>1</sub>, Ar<sub>2</sub>, and R<sub>1</sub>-R<sub>2</sub> are defined herein. The present invention also relates to the discovery that compounds having Formulae I and II are activators of caspases and inducers of apoptosis. Therefore, the activators of caspases and inducers of apoptosis of this invention may be used to induce cell death in a variety of clinical conditions in which uncontrolled growth and spread of abnormal cells occurs.